

## George O. Smith to Andrew Jackson, November 22, 1813, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### GEORGE SMITH TO JACKSON.

Pitchlands, 1 November 22, 1813.

1 That is, the residence of John Pitchlynn, the interpreter with the Choctaw. Gen. Ferdinand L. Claiborne commanded the Mississippi militia operating along the lower Alabama above Fort Stoddert and around Fort St. Stephen, on the Tombigbee. Col. John McKee was Choctaw agent.

Major Genl. Jackson

*Sir.* The day before yesterday an Express arrived here from Genl. Claiborne with directions for Mr Pitchland to forward it on to you at any expence and at all hazards; We have employed Mr McCanless an enterprising and zealous young man to carry the same to you in company with Mr Robert Sorrels, Mr McCanless being a most excellent woodsman and a man entirely to be depended upon I take the liberty of introducing to your Notice.

The Express brought me a letter from Mr Geo. S Gaines<sup>2</sup> informing me that Genl. Flournoy with the 7th. Regt had marched for New Orleans; The 3rd. Regt under the Command of Col. Russell was preparing to ascend the Alabama with provisions Major Hinds and his Dragoons had killed ten Indians and two Negroes a few days ago in Rutherfords field on the Alabama and took two Negroes prisoner and that four spies had come in and stated that about 500 creek Indians had gone to Pensacola for Presents. Which I trust Genl. Claiborne will certainly not suffer them to Escape him having a sufficient force under him to Intercept them as they return. Col. McKee I expect here

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every hour whom I have been informed has succeeded in procuring ammunition for the Chocktaws to effect an Expedition against the Creeks; so soon as Colo. Mckee arrives here we shall endeavor at all hazards to join your Army. We have it in contemplation to proceed on from this to a Village of Creeks

2 This letter, Nov. 13, 1813, is in the Jackson MSS. with Hawkins's letter to Toulmin.

and a considerable number of rebellious Chaktaws on the Black Warrior situated as I am informed about forty miles above the mouth of said river. From thence if we consider our force sufficient we shall attack the Cawhawssau Village from whence we shall endeavor to fall in with your army some where on the Alabama. Our situation here has been too inactive a one. We long to be engaged in more active scenes with you in the Heart of the creeks country. I forward to you a letter I received from G. S. Gaines containing a letter from Col. Hawkins to Judge Toulman which I think ought to damn him in the minds of all good men. . . .3 N B

Mr Pitchland has been remarkablie friendly and has furnished our little band with every kind of provision that was in his power.

3 In his letter to Judge Toulmin, Colonel Hawkins, the Creek agent, said: "The disaster which befel the par[ty] at Mim's fort was to retaliate an attack made on the party returning from Pensacola, as soon as Peter McQueen returned home 20 days were broken for an attack on Coweta, it being a primary object with the fanatics to unite the nation. Our warriors were convened. But the families of the killed and of those who were plundered of the Governors presents, forced the leaders to change the attack to that of the half breeds and their assistants. on the way down they were informed that the former were at Mim's fort and the latter at a fort in the fork and they directed their attacks accordingly".